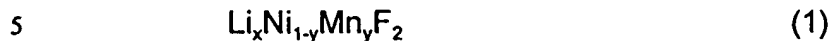


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a positive active material for a rechargeable lithium battery. The positive active material includes at least one compound represented by formulas 1 to 4:



where M is selected from the group consisting of Co, Mg, Fe, Sr, Ti, B, Si, Ga, Al, Sc,
10 Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Pm, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Ac, Th, Pa, U, Np, Pu,
Am, Cm, Bk, Cf, Es, Fm, Md, No and Lr, $0.95 \leq x \leq 1.1$, $0 < y \leq 0.99$, $0 \leq z \leq 0.5$, and $0 \leq a \leq 0.5$; and a metal oxide or composite metal oxide layer formed on the compound.